

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 EA-11

IO-13 RSR-01 /110 W

----- 130404

R 051217Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 355

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR US SW

SUBJECT: JULY 4 OBSERVANCE - PRO AND CON

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. CHARGE GAVE JULY 4 MIDDAY RECEPTION AT RESIDENCE WHICH WAS WELL ATTENDED BY ABOUT 300. MINISTER OF SOCIAL WELFARE ASPLING (ACTING HEAD OF GOVERNMENT DURING PALME'S HOLIDAY) AND MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO MOBERG HEADED GOS ATTENDEES.

2. IN LATE AFTERNOON SWEDISH-AMERICAN SOCIETY STAGED JULY 4 OUTDOOR PARTY ON BASIS OF COME-ONE-COME-ALL-AT-NOMINAL-CHARGE. CHARGE READ PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE AT BRIEF SPEECHMAKING INTERLUDE. TURNOUT WHICH INCLUDED MANY VISITING AMERICANS WAS OVER 1000, WHICH EXCEEDED EXPECTATIONS. SOCIETY'S PARTY WAS RESUMPTION OF A PRACTICE SUSPENDED THREE YEARS AGO WHEN ANTI-US DEMONSTRATORS RENDERED SUCH PUBLIC GATHERINGS UNFEASIBLE. NO DEMONSTRATORS APPEARED AT SOCIETY'S EVENT YESTERDAY.

3. STOCKHOLM LOCAL OF UNITED FNL GROUPS HELD EVENING
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RALLY IN DOWNTOWN STOCKHOLM SQUARE AND MARCHED TO

CHANCERY, LEAVING "OUT-OF-INDOCHINA" PETITION WITH NCOIC.
CROWD ESTIMATED BY POLICE AT 1500 AND BY FNL AT MORE THAN
2000 CHANTED AND SANG BEFORE CHANCERY ABOUT ONE HOUR.
POLICE PROTECTION WAS ADEQUATE AND THERE WAS NO VIOLENCE.
MAIN PROPAGANDA LINES IN DEMONSTRATORS SLOGANS AND
BANNERS WERE: US STOP CAMBODIA BOMBING -- FREE POLITICAL
PRISONERS IN SOUTH VIETNAM -- US GET OUT OF KOREA.

4. EVENING MAIN SWEDISH RADIO TV NEWS PROGRAM HAD
10-MINUTE TAKEOUT ON US-SWEDISH RELATIONS PEGGED TO
JULY 4. THRUST OF ROUNDUP REPORT, WHICH INCLUDED SHORT
STATEMENT BY FORNMINISTER WICKMAN IN HELSINKI (SEE SEPTTEL),
THREE-MINUTE INTERVIEW WITH CHARGE AND CORRESPONDENT
REPORT FROM WASHINGTON, WAS POSITIVE FROM US VIEWPOINT.
BASIC MESSAGE WAS THAT US-SWEDISH RELATIONS ARE FROZEN
FOR TIME BEING IN DIPLOMATIC-POLITICAL DISAGREEMENT BUT
BASIC US-SWEDISH TIES REMAIN AND INEVITABLE THAW WILL
COME SOME DAY. END UNCLASSIFIED.

5. BEGIN LOU. ATMOSPHERE WAS MARKEDLY BETTER FOR US
IN STOCKHOLM THIS JULY 4 THAN ONE YEAR AGO. CHANGE WAS
UNDOUBTEDLY ATTRIBUTABLE LARGELY TO TURN OF EVENTS IN
VIETNAM. ANOTHER FACTOR IS WIDESPREAD FEELING IN GOS
AND SWEDISH PUBLIC (FREQUENTLY EXPRESSED AT RECEPTION)
THAT CURRENT ESTRANGEMENT FROM US IS NOT GOOD FOR SWEDEN
AND TIME HAS COME TO EMPHASIZE, WHERE POSSIBLE, THE
POSITIVE.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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